

Mr. Little: please disregard the message on page 4,
you've already a mail of member. My
apologies for not answering your letter sooner.
I hope you'll be able to attend the

The West End Association Post Office Box 161 Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27102

meeting listed below. Thanks for your
interest.

WEST END NEWS

MARCH 1977



IMPORTANT DATES, TIMES AND PLACES. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND MAKE PLANS
NOW TO ATTEND IMPORTANT MEETINGS.

Tuesday, March 29, 7:30 p.m. - Glade Street Y.W.C.A.
General Neighborhood Meeting, with discussion of adoption
of constitution and bylaws, making West End Association a
non-profit corporation. (See item in this newsletter about
the pro's and con's of such a step.)

Tuesday, April 19, 7:30 p.m. - Glade Street Y.W.C.A.
General Neighborhood Meeting, featuring representatives of
the Winston-Salem Police Department who will tell us about
increasing security measures in our homes, and how to keep
the West End a safe and pleasant place to live and work.

Thursday, April 28, 7:30 p.m. - Glade Street Y.W.C.A.
Board of Directors Meeting, everyone welcome.

No date set yet, to be announced: Meeting of the Sculpture in
Hanes Park Committee to introduce their selection of the
person who will design and supervise construction of the
Hanes Park sculpture. The Committee and the artist want
and need to meet and talk with everyone about what will be
happening. Watch for announcement of this meeting (it will
be made at the March 29 general meeting) and plan to attend.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS TO BE PRESENTED TO NEIGHBORHOOD FOR APPROVAL AND ADOPTION

At the last general meeting of the neighborhood, there was a full discussion of the advisability of the West End Association's moving from its present unincorporated state and adopting articles of incorporation and bylaws, and filing for status as a non-profit corporation. Such a move would include an application for tax-exempt status, and a request that contributions made to the Association be deemed deductible. Many persons at the meeting felt that insufficient notice of such an action had been given, and that everyone in the neighborhood should have an opportunity to study the implications of such an action before any meeting at which they would be called upon to vote. Accordingly, the move to adopt the articles and

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WHY INCORPORATE?

This question has been asked and studied by the Board of Directors for a considerable period of time. It is generally recognized that there would be a very great advantage to the Association to be incorporated in the event the Association incurs some sort of liability. As an unincorporated body, its members are liable individually. Incorporated, liability is that of the corporation. For a long time, however, incorporation carried a distinct liability, for there was a large question about what restrictions on activity such a move might bring. Particularly, there was concern that incorporation might limit the potential political activity of the West End Association in matters such as petitions for rezoning and opposing such petitions when not in the general interest

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CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS TO BE PRESENTED TO
NEIGHBORHOOD FOR APPROVAL AND ADOPTION
(continued from p. 1)

and bylaws was postponed. At the last meeting of the Board of Directors on March 9, it was decided to hold a general meeting of the neighborhood on March 29, at which the issue would again be discussed. It was also decided that notice of this meeting should be given as wide a circulation as possible, and that the notice should include copies of the proposed bylaws and articles of incorporation.

WHY INCORPORATE?
(continued from p. 1)

of the neighborhood. Until recently, it has been true that non-profit corporations could not engage in significant political activity.

The Tax Reform Act of 1976, however, has changed the law as applied to non-profit corporations. Now the restriction on political activity is defined very clearly, and it is one which does not appear to limit any of the activity which the West End Association has taken in the past, nor which it might take in the future. Very simply, the West End Association, if organized as a non-profit corporation, could expend up to 20% of its assets in political activity. Since the activity which we have engaged in in the past, mainly gathering petitions and speaking to the zoning board and the aldermen has required little or no use of any assets, this does not seem to present a problem. In short, the Board of Directors feels that the only serious difficulty which might have been encountered by incorporation has been eliminated by the Tax Reform Act.

There are some very distinct advantages to incorporation beyond the protection of individual members from liability. As the Association grows, matures, and seeks new ways to express its goals of keeping the West End an attractive and enjoyable place to live, we must find funds. Potential donors of funds find it difficult to make contributions to groups which aren't formally organized. An example is the recent grant of \$1,000 from the Winston-Salem Arts Council and \$2,000 from the North Carolina Arts Council. We had to find an intermediary for the funds in order to receive them. If we were incorporated and tax-exempt, we would have an easier time attracting money for the projects which we might want to undertake.

The purposes for which the incorporation sought are set out in Article III of the accompanying "Articles of Incorporation" and they are repeated in Article II of the "By-laws." These are purposes which were developed by the Board of Directors, and are by no means exhaustive. We have felt, however, that they include most of the activities which have been discussed generally around the neighborhood as things which the Association should be doing. If you have changes or additions to this part, or to any other part, please be sure to make them known at the March 29 meeting.

The other active neighborhood associations, Crystal Towers, Armore and Washington Park, have incorporated recently. They have found that their organizations have been strengthened by such a move.

One final thought: a non-profit corporation can apply for reduced postal rates for bulk mailings. One of the frustrations of all of us is getting information distributed to everyone, and getting general and specific response on issues from everyone in the neighborhood. We are hopeful that we could shift from hand delivery to mailings when we become incorporated.

WEST HILLS DEVELOPMENT

Many of you are aware of the construction recently begun on Sunset Avenue, the West Hills Apartments. These apartments, 63 units, are being built to be occupied by the elderly. The apartments will have rent subsidized by the U. S. Government under the Section 8 program. Persons who are interested in information about renting the apartments should call Martha Rokahr at 722-9525. Rentals will be limited to persons over 62, but all the details are best received directly from the company which is building the apartments, Community Management Corporation.

When construction of West Hills began, there was considerable concern expressed about the construction and the grading of the site on Sunset Avenue. The developer, John Eagan, his architect, Ray Troxell, and others connected with the development, met with the Board of Directors, adjacent property owners, and other interested residents on February 17. There was a full discussion of the project, measures taken to control erosion during construction, and landscaping which will be done when the building is complete.

The complete report on this matter will be made at the March 29 meeting. Those interested should know that Mr. Eagan and his associates have assured the Board of Directors that the West End Association will be involved in the landscaping and beautification of the site, and that the developers have every intention of making West Hills an asset in the neighborhood. Mr. Eagan has supplied the Board with plans of the project and the grounds, and these will be available during the meeting on March 29. A representative from the city who deals with erosion control has told the Board that everything required by the erosion control ordinance has been done on the construction site, and Mr. Eagan has assured the Board that erosion will be controlled.

Again, the developers have emphasized that residents of the West End who qualify will be given preference in filling the apartments at West Hills. More information on this is available by calling 722-9525.

HOUSING INFORMATION

The Board and many residents of the West End regularly get questions about houses that might be for sale or rent. We have no organized way to deal with these requests. It would be very helpful for someone to volunteer to keep up with houses that are available (or soon will be) and match them with people who have expressed an interest in moving to the West End but can't seem to find the right house. Volunteers call Thorns Craven at 725-9832.

SCULPTURE COMMITTEE

As noted in the announcement of upcoming meetings, the Sculpture Committee has made a tentative selection of an artist to design the sculpture for Hanes Park. In accordance with the terms of the grants made to the Association, the artist and the neighborhood should have an opportunity to explore the possibilities in designing something which will be a source of pleasure for the neighborhood and for everyone who enjoys and uses Hanes Park. We will be holding a special meeting in the near future for the neighborhood to meet the artist. Please be thinking about this project, and plan to attend.

The treasury of the West End Association has swelled with the receipt of funds from the

North Carolina Arts Council. We have the \$2,000 grant in hand, and have put it in a savings account. At last word, it had earned \$5.21.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee, like the rest of us, is coming out of the great freeze, and is beginning to meet again to study the results of the neighborhood survey taken last fall, and to plot a course which will lead eventually to the adoption of a community development plan for all of West End. There were over 250 returns of the survey, and this return has been greeted with a mixed reaction. On the one hand, there was disappointment that everyone in the West End did not return a completed survey. The comments and responses were so helpful on each survey that one can't help being disappointed that everyone didn't seize the chance to put in his or her observations. On the other hand, statistically speaking, the response was fantastic. Most simple surveys hope for a 10% response. Ours was complicated and time-consuming, and we got 25%. A special thanks to everyone who participated in the survey. You will be kept informed as the results are analyzed.

SLIDES OF WEST END SOUGHT

In the past few months, there have been presentations about life and living in the West End made to various civic groups. Other neighborhoods have participated, and have made effective use of color slides showing houses, parks, interior details, etc., etc. It would be very helpful for those of you who have extra slides which show these aspects of West End to make them available. Also, any aspiring photographers who want to do a study of the neighborhood are welcome to share their plans with the Association and with the Board. Call Thorns Craven at 725-9832, to volunteer your camera work.

CONTRACTORS, BUILDERS AND HANDYMEN (HANDYPERSONS)

There are often requests made for the Association to provide a list of approved contractors and firms and persons who are available to do renovation and repair work in older homes. The West End Association has not compiled such a list, but is aware that the Crystal Towers Neighborhood Association has developed a list of firms approved to do work

under the community development grant program which is taking place there. Any of you who have suggestions in this area are

urged to make them known to the Association. Write your ideas down and send them to the West End Association, P. O. Box 161, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, 27102.

MEMBERSHIP, NOTICE OF MEETINGS AND RELATED TOPICS

It is generally recognized in the community that the West End Association has been the most successful and enduring neighborhood association in Winston-Salem. The efforts made several years ago to rezone the neighborhood inspired many others in different parts of the city to begin thinking about preservation of their areas. The shared challenge has brought a lot of us together, and we have gotten to know our neighbors and to cherish our neighborhood. The social events--the summer covered-dish supper and the annual Christmas party--are events which are looked forward to with great anticipation and remembered with special warmth because they truly represent what we like most about the West End, the spirit and experience of real neighbors coming together.

At the beginning of this year, we are hopeful that we can increase the strength of the Association, and improve the quality of the activities which are undertaken as a neighborhood. Such ambitions require the support and participation of everyone who is interested in keeping the West End the great place it is. That means that you should join the West End Association, and take an active part in what is going on. One thing which has been a real frustration to the officers of the Association is the dissemination of information about what is happening. Too often meetings are not frequent enough for timely information, and even meetings suffer when there is sparse attendance. There are many things going on that everyone should be aware of. We are hopeful that a concerted drive on our part to increase membership will result in a list of members to whom bulletins about meetings, information about projects, housing opportunities, neighborly exchanges, services, goods, social events and anything you want, can be mailed.

With this last distribution by hand, we are giving up on home delivery. There have been many fine volunteers who have distributed notices of meetings, information sheets, invitations to the social events, and on and on, but, more often than not, we have gotten the feeling that there are those in the West End who have not gotten word about something which might interest them. We would like to put a stop to that. And we can, with your help.

There has been no solicitation for memberships in the West End Association for 1977. We abandoned our practice of selling memberships at the Christmas party. So, in effect, we enter 1977 without the first member. Annual dues have traditionally been \$5.00. They remain at that figure. \$5.00 dues covers a family unit. For senior citizens and retired persons, dues are \$2.00. And, of course, contributions above the dues are gratefully accepted. There is a handy coupon at the bottom of this page. If you are interested in the West End, if you support the West End Association, and if you want to be kept up to date and informed about what is happening in the West End, please, today, immediately, clip that coupon, complete it with your name and address, and mail it with your dues check to The West End Association, P. O. Box 161, Winston-Salem, N. C., 27102. Your membership card will be returned to you promptly, and you will be added to the mailing list which will guarantee that you will be informed of all meetings and activities.

The Association will continue to make every effort to inform everyone of what is going on in the West End, but it will no longer deliver newsletters and notice of meetings by hand to your home. If you want these items, and you want to be a part of your neighborhood association, please send in your dues and the coupon below.

To: The West End Association, P. O. Box 161, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, 27102

Please enroll me as a member of the West End Association for 1977. I enclose \$5.00 as dues for me and my family, \$2.00 for senior citizens and retired persons.

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Special interests and suggestions: _____
